METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR TREATING ADDICTION DISORDERS

5   ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for treating an addiction disorder
(such as an addiction to or dependency on stimulants,
nicotine, morphine, heroin, other opiates, amphetamines,
10   cocaine, and/or alcohol) in a patient is disclosed. The
method includes administering to the patient a first $\alpha_3\beta_4$
nicotinic receptor antagonist and administering to the
patient a second $\alpha_3\beta_4$ nicotinic receptor antagonist. The
second $\alpha_3\beta_4$ nicotinic receptor antagonist is different
15   than the first $\alpha_3\beta_4$ nicotinic receptor antagonist, and the
first $\alpha_3\beta_4$ nicotinic receptor antagonist and the second
$\alpha_3\beta_4$ nicotinic receptor antagonist are administered
simultaneously or non-simultaneously. Compositions which
include a first $\alpha_3\beta_4$ nicotinic receptor antagonist and a
20   second $\alpha_3\beta_4$ nicotinic receptor antagonist are also
described. Examples of suitable $\alpha_3\beta_4$ nicotinic receptor
antagonists for use in the present invention's methods
and compositions include mecamylamine, 18-
methoxycoronaridine, bupropion, dextromethorphan,
25   dextrorphan, and phamaceutically acceptable salts and
solvates thereof. A method of evaluating a compound for
its effectiveness in treating addiction disorders is also
described.